

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al.

Serial No. **08/928,757**

Filed: **September 12, 1997**

For: **PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE...**



Atty. Ref.: 2551-24

Group: 1643

Examiner: Zeman

March 1, 1999

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated August 27, 1998, the applicants elect, with traverse, the species of SEQ ID NO: 53 for initial examination in the above. Claims 49-56 read on the elected species. Examination of all of the claimed subject matter would not place undue burden on the Examiner and withdrawal of the species requirement is requested.

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.J. Sadoff", written over a horizontal line.

B.J. Sadoff
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